# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1234
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
PRICE OF FOODGRAINS UNDER MDM SCHEME
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

(a) the nature of issues involved in increasing the price of wheat and rice supplied under Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme to provide nutrition to lakhs of primary school children; and

(b) the reasons for charging economic rate of grains affecting 100% increase in cost of Mid-Day Meal to school children?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): Under the Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme foodgrains are supplied free of cost to the school children covered under the scheme. Foodgrains are being issued by Food Corporation of India (FCI) to the State Governments/UTs as per the allocation made by Department of Elementary Education and Literacy at BPL rates.

Due to inadequate budget provisions under food subsidy bill, Department of Food & Public Distribution has proposed that the foodgrains under all welfare schemes including Mid Day Meal Scheme may be allotted at economic cost and the expenditure may be reflected in the budget of concerned Department, rather than as food subsidy. This will not have any cost implication for school children covered under the scheme.